



null / ALL

Transmittal Number: 20386033  
Date Processed: 09/13/2019

## Notice of Service of Process

**Primary Contact:** Bruce Buttaro  
Liberty Mutual Insurance Company  
175 Berkeley St  
Boston, MA 02116-5066

**Entity:** Liberty Insurance Corporation  
Entity ID Number 2538339

**Entity Served:** Liberty Insurance Corporation

**Title of Action:** Pablo Jimenez vs. Liberty Mutual Insurance Company; Liberty Insurance Corporation

**Document(s) Type:** Citation/Petition

**Nature of Action:** Contract

**Court/Agency:** Harris County District Court, TX

**Case/Reference No:** 2019-62358

**Jurisdiction Served:** Texas

**Date Served on CSC:** 09/13/2019

**Answer or Appearance Due:** 10:00 am Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after service

**Originally Served On:** CSC

**How Served:** Personal Service

**Sender Information:** Anthony G. Buzbee  
713-223-5393

Information contained on this transmittal form is for record keeping, notification and forwarding the attached document(s). It does not constitute a legal opinion. The recipient is responsible for interpreting the documents and taking appropriate action.

**To avoid potential delay, please do not send your response to CSC**

251 Little Falls Drive, Wilmington, Delaware 19808-1674 (888) 690-2882 | sop@cscglobal.com

**EXHIBIT**

**A**

exhibitsticker.com

CAUSE NO. 201962358

RECEIPT NO.

0.00

CIV

\*\*\*\*\*

TR # 73667704

PLAINTIFF: JIMENEZ, PABLO  
vs.

DEFENDANT: LIBERTY MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

In The 234th  
Judicial District Court  
of Harris County, Texas  
234TH DISTRICT COURT  
Houston, TX

## CITATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
County of HarrisTO: LIBERTY INSURANCE CORPORATION BY SERVING CORPORATION SERVICE  
COMPANY

✓ 211 E 7TH STREET SUITE 620 AUSTIN TX 78701 - 3218

Attached is a copy of PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION

This instrument was filed on the 30th day of August, 2019, in the above cited cause number and court. The instrument attached describes the claim against you.

YOU HAVE BEEN SUED, You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the District Clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

## TO OFFICER SERVING:

This citation was issued on 5th day of September, 2019, under my hand and seal of said Court.

Issued at request of:  
LEAVITT, CHRISTOPHER JERROD  
600 TRAVIS STREET SUITE 7300  
HOUSTON, TX 77002  
Tel: (713) 223-5393  
Bar No.: 24053318

*Marilyn Burgess*

MARILYN BURGESS, District Clerk  
Harris County, Texas  
201 Caroline, Houston, Texas 77002  
(P.O. Box 4651, Houston, Texas 77210)

Generated By: CHAMBERS, WANDA ULW//11317110

## OFFICER/AUTHORIZED PERSON RETURN

Came to hand at 9:40 o'clock A.M., on the 12 day of September, 2019.

Executed at (address) \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_

County at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_.M., on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, by delivering to \_\_\_\_\_ defendant, in person, a  
true copy of this Citation together with the accompanying \_\_\_\_\_ copy(ies) of the Petition  
attached thereto and I endorsed on said copy of the Citation the date of delivery.  
To certify which I affix my hand officially this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

FEE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ County, Texas

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Affiant Deputy

On this day, \_\_\_\_\_, known to me to be the person whose  
signature appears on the foregoing return, personally appeared. After being by me duly sworn,  
he/she stated that this citation was executed by him/her in the exact manner recited on the  
return.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Notary Public

09/13/19  
B. Gutt  
PCUD

8/30/2019 9:13 PM

Marilyn Burgess - District Clerk Harris County

Envelope No. 36451868

By: Cynthia Clausell-McGowan

Filed: 8/30/2019 9:13 PM

**2019-62358 / Court: 234**

**CAUSE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

PABLO & JANE JIMENEZ,  
*Plaintiffs*

v.

LIBERTY MUTUAL INSURANCE  
COMPANY &  
LIBERTY INSURANCE  
CORPORATION  
*Defendants*

§ IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
§  
§ HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS  
§  
§ JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
§  
§ JURY TRIAL DEMAND

**PLAINTIFFS'S ORIGINAL PETITION**

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

COMES NOW PLAINTIFFS Pablo & Jane Jimenez ("Plaintiffs") and files this Original Petition against Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and Liberty Insurance Corporation ("Defendants") and, in support of thereof, would respectfully show the Court the following:

**I. DISCOVERY CONTROL PLAN AND MONETARY RELIEF**

1. Plaintiffs intends to conduct discovery under Level 2. Tex. R. Civ. P. 190.3.
2. Plaintiffs seeks monetary relief under \$100,000.00, including damages of any kind, penalties, costs, expenses, pre-judgment interest, and attorney's fees. Tex. R. Civ. P. 47(c)(1). Further, Plaintiffs specifies that she seeks a maximum amount of damages that does not exceed the sum or value of \$74,000, exclusive of interest and costs. Removal would be improper because there is no federal question. Plaintiffs has not asserted any claims arising under the Constitution, treaties or laws of the United States of America. 28 U.S. Code § 1331. Further, removal would be improper because federal courts lack subject matter jurisdiction over this action, as the matter in controversy does not exceed the sum or value of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs. 28 U.S. Code § 1332.

**II. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT**

3. Pursuant to Tex. R. Civ. P. 54, Plaintiffs asserts that all conditions precedent to recovery have been performed or have occurred.

**III. PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

**A. PARTIES**

4. Plaintiffs Pablo & Jane Jimenez is a Texas resident, who resides in 21514 Skyla Circle, Humble, Harris County, Texas.

5. Defendant Liberty Mutual Insurance Company Corporation is an insurance company doing business in the State of Texas, which may be served through Corporation Service Company at 211 E 7th St. Ste. 620, Austin, TX 78701 - 3218.

6. Defendant Liberty Insurance Corporation is an insurance company doing business in the State of Texas, which may be served through Corporation Service Company at 211 E 7th St. Ste. 620, Austin, TX 78701 - 3218.

**B. JURISDICTION**

7. The Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this cause of action because it involves an amount in controversy in excess of the minimum jurisdictional limits of the Court.

8. The Court has both general and specific personal jurisdiction over Defendants. The Court has general jurisdiction over Defendants, as Defendants has sufficient minimum contacts with and within this State and has purposefully availed itself of the privilege of conducting activities within this State, thus invoking the benefits, protections, and obligations of this State's laws. Defendants' contacts with this State, which are continuous and systematic, include doing business in Texas, selling and delivering insurance products in Texas, entering into contracts for insurance in Texas with Texas residents, insuring property located in Texas, underwriting insurance policies in Texas,

accepting policy premiums in Texas and adjusting insurance claims in Texas. This activity was not the unilateral activity of another party or a third person.

9. Defendants' contacts with Texas, relied upon by Plaintiffs, were purposeful and were not random, fortuitous, or attenuated, and are thus subject to the jurisdiction of this State in suits based on its activities. The Court has jurisdiction over Defendants because: (1) Defendants purposefully availed itself of the benefits of conducting activities in Texas, and (2) the cause of action arises from or relates to those contacts or activities.

10. The Court has specific jurisdiction over this matter as it involved the execution, performance, and breach of a Texas insurance contract with Plaintiffs, who is a Texas resident, with regards to an insured risk and/or property located in Texas. As a matter of law, Defendants conducted business in this State because, without limitation, Defendants conducted the business of insurance in Texas and committed one or more torts and/or violated the Texas DTPA and/or Insurance Code, in whole or in part in this State, against Plaintiffs in Harris County, Texas. Defendants has sufficient and/or minimum contacts with this State, and thus Plaintiffs affirmatively assert the Court's exercise of jurisdiction over Defendants comports with "traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice."

**C. VENUE**

11. Venue is proper in Harris County because all or a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in Harris County. Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code § 15.002(a)(1). The property subject to this dispute and which is owned by Plaintiffs is located in Harris County. The insurance policy insuring the property was executed in Harris County. The damage to the property resulted from an event or occurrence in Harris County. The resulting insurance claim

that was made by Plaintiffs, the property inspection performed by Defendants, and the denial and/or underpayment of the insurance claim by Defendants occurred in Harris County.

**IV. FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

12. Pablo & Jane Jimenez is a named insured under a property insurance policy issued by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and Liberty Insurance Corporation. The policy number is \*\*\*9840.

13. Hurricane Harvey caused major wind damage to thousands of homes in the Southeast Texas area. Hurricane Harvey's winds were sufficient to cause damage as evidenced in this claim. Thereafter, Plaintiffs' subsequently filed a claim on their insurance policy.

14. Defendants improperly denied and/or underpaid the claim.

15. Defendants conducted a substandard investigation and inspection of the property, prepared a report, which did not include all of the damages that were observed during the inspection, and undervalued the damages observed during the inspection.

16. Specifically, On August 28, 2017, Hurricane Harvey hit the Texas coast, which included Harris County. The impact of this storm caused roof and interior damage to Plaintiffs' house. Specifically, the storm cracked multiple shingles, exposing nails. The cracked shingles caused water to enter into the house. As a result, the water stained and cracked their ceiling. Thereafter, Plaintiffs' filed a claim on their insurance policy.

17. Defendants performed an outcome-oriented investigation of Plaintiffs' claim. Defendants' (improper) claims handling included Defendants' biased claims adjustment, and an unfair and inequitable evaluation of Plaintiffs' losses on the property. In addition, Defendants' claims handling included both an unreasonable investigation and underpayment of Plaintiffs' claim.

**V. CAUSES OF ACTION AND ATTORNEY'S FEES**

18. Plaintiffs incorporates the foregoing for all purposes.

**A. BREACH OF CONTRACT**

19. Plaintiffs and Defendants entered into an insurance contract. Defendants breached this contract by, without limitation, inadequately and/or improperly investigating Plaintiffs' insurance claim, wrongfully denying and/or underpaying the claim. Defendants damaged Plaintiffs through its actions and/or inactions described herein.

**B. PROMPT PAYMENT OF CLAIMS STATUTE**

20. Defendants' failure to pay for Plaintiffs' losses and/ or to follow the statutory time guidelines for accepting or denying coverage constitutes a violation of Section 542.051 *et seq.* of the Texas Insurance Code.

21. In addition to Plaintiffs' claim for damages, Defendants' violation of the Tex. Insurance Code entitles Plaintiffs to interest and attorneys' fees as set forth in Section 542.060 of the Texas Insurance Code.

**C. BAD FAITH**

22. Defendants is an insurance company and insured Plaintiffs' property. Defendants is required to comply with Chapter 541 of the Texas Insurance Code.

23. Defendants violated Section 541.051 of the Texas Insurance Code by, without limitation:

1. Making statements misrepresenting the terms and/or benefits of the policy.

24. Defendants also violated Section 541.060 by, without limitation:

1. Misrepresenting to Plaintiffs a material fact or policy provision relating to coverage at issue;

2. Failing to attempt in good faith to effectuate a prompt, fair, and equitable settlement of a claim with respect to which the insurer's liability had become reasonably clear;
  3. Failing to promptly provide to Plaintiffs a reasonable explanation of the basis in the policy, in relation to the facts or applicable law, for the insurer's denial of a claim or offer of a compromised settlement of a claim;
  4. Failing within a reasonable time to affirm or deny coverage of a claim to Plaintiffs or submit a reservation of rights to Plaintiffs; and/or
  5. Refusing to pay the claim without conducting a reasonable investigation with respect to the claim;
25. Defendants violated Section 541.061 by, without limitation:
1. Making an untrue statement of material fact;
  2. Failing to state a material fact necessary to make other statements made not misleading considering the circumstances under which the statements were made;
  3. Making a statement in a manner that would mislead a reasonably prudent person to a false conclusion of a material fact;
  4. Making a material misstatement of law; and/or
  5. Failing to disclose a matter required by law to be disclosed.
26. Defendants knowingly committed the acts complained of. As such, Plaintiffs is entitled to exemplary and/or treble damages pursuant to Texas Insurance Code Section 541.152(a)-(b).
- D. ATTORNEYS' FEES**
27. Plaintiffs engaged the undersigned attorneys to prosecute this lawsuit against Defendants and agreed to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses through trial and any appeal.

28. Plaintiffs is entitled to reasonable and necessary attorney's fees pursuant to Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code Sections 38.001-38.003 because an attorney that represents Plaintiffs presented the claim to Defendants, and Defendants did not tender the just amount owed before the expiration of the 30th day after the claim was presented.

29. Plaintiffs further prays that them be awarded all reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in prosecuting their causes of action through trial and any appeal pursuant to Sections 541.152 and 542.060 of the Texas Insurance Code.

**VI. TEX. R. CIV. P. 193.7 NOTICE.**

30. Pursuant to Tex. R. Civ. P. 193.7, the undersigned hereby notifies all parties and counsel of record that Plaintiffs may introduce into evidence at the time of trial or pre-trial, those documents produced by all parties in response to requests for production and/or requests for disclosure in this matter.

**VII. JURY DEMAND**

31. Pursuant to Tex. R. Civ. P. 216, Plaintiffs hereby demands trial by jury and has tendered the appropriate fee.

**VIII. PRAYER**

32. WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiffs prays that Defendants be cited to appear and answer herein, and that, after due process of law, Plaintiffs have judgment against Defendants for actual damages, together with exemplary damages, statutory damages, treble damages, statutory interest, pre-judgment interest, post-judgment interest, attorneys' fees, costs of suit, and for all such other and further relief, both general and special, in law and in equity, to which Plaintiffs may be justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

**THE BUZBEE LAW FIRM**

By: /s/ Anthony G. Buzbee

Anthony G. Buzbee  
State Bar No. 24001820  
tbuzbee@txattorneys.com  
Christopher J. Leavitt  
State Bar No. 24053318  
cleavitt@txattorneys.com  
JP Morgan Chase Tower  
600 Travis, Suite 6850  
Houston, Texas 77002  
Telephone: (713) 223-5393  
Facsimile: (713) 223-5909

AND

**LAW OFFICES OF MANUEL SOLIS, PC**

By: /s/ Stephen R. Walker

Stephen R. Walker  
Texas Bar No. 24034729  
Gregory J. Finney  
Texas Bar No. 24044430  
Juan A. Solis  
Texas Bar No. 24103040  
6657 Navigation Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77011  
Phone: (713) 277-7838  
Fax: (281) 377-3924  
swalker@manuelsolis.com  
gfinney@manuelsolis.com  
jusolis@manuelsolis.com

**ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS**